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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/691,915	10/19/2000	Hermann Bieringer	514413-3843	7663
20999	7590	05/03/2004	EXAMINER CLARDY, S	
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1616

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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20040430

DATE MAILED:

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner for Patents**

The amendment filed February 10, 2004, is non-responsive (unclear).

S. Mark Clardy  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1616

Claims 20-25 are pending in this application. It is unclear from the record which of claims 1-19 remain pending.

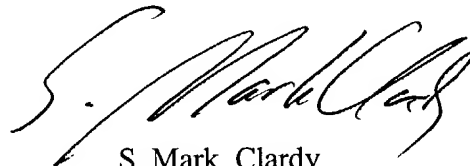
The reply filed on February 10, 2004, is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): it is unclear which claims remain pending. The amendment states that claims 1-19 are canceled, but then proceeds to present claims 18-25. In the response (p. 15), applicants state that "this amendment cancels claims 1-16 and 19", and then "adds new claims 1-6 wherein ..." various limitations are recited. Canceled claims may not be re-instated with their original numbering, but may be added as new claims (in this case, beginning with claim 26.). See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, but not likely to be correctable in a telephone interview, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to S. Mark Clardy whose telephone number is 571-272-0611. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman Page can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1616

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Mark Clardy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "S." being small and the last name "Clardy" being larger and more prominent.

S. Mark Clardy  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1616

April 30, 2004